

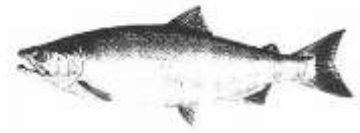
# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES



### NEWS RELEASE

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### Lower Cook Inlet Salmon Fishery News Release #8

**KAMISHAK BAY DISTRICT:** The Bruin Bay Subdistrict will close to commercial harvest at 12:01 AM on Monday, July 2. Remaining waters of the Kamishak Bay District with the exception of the Chenik, McNeil and Paint River subdistricts, remain open to commercial seine harvest. There has been no harvest reported to date from this area. An aerial survey flown in poor observational conditions on Wednesday, June 27 documented 5,600 sockeye salmon in Chenik Lagoon and 2,500 in Mikfik Lagoon. Video cameras installed at Mikfik Lake have counted a total of 1,280 sockeye salmon that had entered the lake as of June 27. The anticipated count for this date is 5,941 towards a final Sustainable Escapement Goal (SEG) range of 6,300 – 12,150 fish for Mikfik Lake. Video cameras at Chenik Lake had counted 271 fish entering the lake as of June 27 when the hard drive was retrieved. Given the pending high tide series next week that will increase fish passage into Chenik Lake, the hard drive will be pulled next on Sunday, July 1 and likely again from Tuesday – Thursday midweek. The SEG for Chenik Lake is 3,500 – 14,000 fish with a midpoint of 8,750 fish. **Video counts that clearly indicate a trend towards attainment of the SEG for Chenik Lake may result in an unscheduled commercial fisheries announcement.**

**SOUTHERN DISTRICT:** Waters of the China Poot Subdistrict excluding the China Poot SHA, and waters of the Halibut Cove Subdistrict, excluding Halibut Cove Lagoon, remain open to commercial salmon **purse seine harvest** on a regular schedule of two 64-hour fishing periods per week, from 6:00 a.m. Monday until 10:00 p.m. Wednesday, and from 6:00 a.m. Thursday until 10:00 p.m. Saturday until further notice.

The China Poot SHA is defined in 5 AAC 21.373 as, “the marine waters of the China Poot Bay Subdistrict in the Southern District shoreward of and enclosed by a line from 59° 34.66' N. lat., 151° 19.27' W. long., to 59° 35.08' N. lat., 151° 19.77' W. long., to 59° 33.09' N. lat., 151° 25.22' W. long., to 59°32.84' N. lat., 151° 24.90' W. long.;

Also within the Southern District, waters of the Barabara Creek Subdistrict, the Tutka Bay Subdistrict, the Halibut Cove Subdistrict and the Seldovia Bay Subdistrict remain open to commercial salmon **set gillnet harvest** on a regular schedule of two 48-hour fishing periods per week, from 6:00 a.m. Monday until 6:00 a.m. Wednesday, and from 6:00 a.m. Thursday until 6:00 a.m. Saturday until further notice. Waters of the Port Graham Subdistrict, including both the Port Graham and English Bay sections, remain closed to commercial and subsistence salmon harvest until further notice as a precautionary measure to protect sockeye salmon returning to English Bay lakes. This subdistrict is anticipated to open to subsistence harvest when spawning escapement levels are tracking to meet the sustainable escapement goal of 6,000 – 13,500 fish. Once this has occurred, harvest of broodstock for CIAA hatchery purposes and commercial set gillnet harvests may occur. As of June 28, a total of 1,529 fish passed the English Bay River weir versus a minimum goal of 3,694 fish for this date. Historically on average 62% of that years weir passage had been counted by June 28.

***Preliminary*** commercial harvest to date from the Southern District is shown below,

Period			Sockeye			Chinook			Chum		
Period. #	Dates	Del.	10-yr avg.	2011 harvest	2012 harvest	10-yr avg.	2011 harvest	2012 harvest	10-yr avg.	2011 harvest	2012 harvest
1	6/1 - 6/2	6	158	1,214	429	31	15	5	6	20	15
2	6/4 - 6/6	7	1,278	700	519	100	9	7	18	16	6
3	6/7 - 6/9	7	894	287	615	90	11	7	28	24	33
4	6/11 - 6/13	9	1,491	707	465	72	16	16	51	27	76
5	6/14 - 6/16	6	903	292	218	55	9	3	47	7	18
6	6/18 - 6/20	8	1,634	382	635	57	6	5	88	16	35
7	6/21 - 6/23	5	1,003	1,269	414	41	5	1	66	90	42
8	6/25 - 6/27	7	1,885	998	461	34	4	5	228	83	38
<b>Total</b>			<b>9,246</b>	<b>5,849</b>	<b>3,756</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>263</b>

**OUTER DISTRICT:** An aerial survey of Delight and Desire lake was flown on June 28 under poor conditions with 620 sockeye salmon observed in Desire Lake and 780 in Delight Lake and river. A weir is anticipated to be deployed in the Delight River early next week.

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**HATCHERY UPDATE:** Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association (CIAA) began cost recovery on Monday, May 21 in Resurrection Bay. As of June 21, a total of 79,761 sockeye salmon had been harvested. There have been no additional harvests since that date. Hatchery and wild broodstock escapement past the Bear Creek weir as of June 28 was 5,168 sockeye salmon versus an anticipated escapement of 6,900 fish for this date towards a final combined escapement goal of 10,000 fish for this system.

The overall CIAA cost recovery goal of 1.55 million dollars was to be met using 136 thousand fish harvested from Resurrection Bay and 19 thousand from the Tutka Bay Lagoon return. Given the below anticipated return to Resurrection Bay, CIAA cost recovery will occur at the China Poot and Kirchner Lake SHAs in addition to the SHA in Tutka Bay. Anticipated sockeye salmon returns to these remote release sites are,

Kirchner Lake - 10,200 fish,

China Poot/Hazel Lake – 6,500 fish, and

Tutka Lagoon – 28,000 fish.

Compounding this, 5,028 sockeye salmon were to have been harvested from the English Bay River weir by CIAA as broodstock for Lower Cook Inlet remote releases. Given the below anticipated return to the English Bay River system, these broodstock fish will now be harvested from remote release sites listed above. Fish returning to these sites are all of Hidden Lake stock.

Commercial fishermen are reminded that all lawfully taken finfish that are retained but not sold must be reported on a fish ticket at the time of landing. Fish tickets have a not sold/home pack block to report these fish. Halibut are not legal to retain from commercial salmon seines or gillnets because these are not legal gear for halibut.

**5 AAC 39.010. Retention of fish taken in a commercial fishery** (a) A person engaged in commercial fishing may retain finfish from lawfully taken commercial catch for that person's own use, including for the use as bait in a commercial fishery. Finfish retained under this section may not be sold or bartered. (b) Except as otherwise specified in 5 AAC [01](#) - 5 AAC [39](#), a commercial fisherman shall report on an ADF&G fish ticket, at the time of delivery of the commercial catch, the number of steelhead retained from the commercial catch but not sold. For the purposes of this subsection, "delivery" means the offloading of the finfish for sale or for transport to a buyer for later sale.

**5 AAC 39.130. Reports required of fishermen, processors, buyers, exporters, and operators of certain commercial fishing vessels; transporting requirements** (C)(10) the number of fish of any species retained by a commercial fisherman for personal use as specified in 5 AAC [39.010](#);

**The next scheduled salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be on Monday, July 2.**

Announcement recordings are available on the 24-hour telephone recording in the Homer office at 907/235-7307.

Additionally, announcements, inseason harvest data, and escapement data are available at the following web address:

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyarealci.salmon>

Unless otherwise specified, all openings are clock openings based on Alaska Daylight Time, which is based on Coordinated Universal Time and may be obtained by calling 303-499-7111.